IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 1156

International Court of Justice

H1156 – 0001

H1156-0002

5th January 1946.

ADDITIONS TO TRIAL BRIEF ON DEFENDANT VON RIBBENTROP.

Page 3: After D.472 add: D.636 - Extract from "Examination of Descent of S.S.Leaders"

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

At beginning of Section B. (page 4) insert:

"The Defendant had been concerned in the stirring up of the Sudeten Germans under Henlein.

US.93 3060 PS Prague to F.O.Berlin 16 March 1938 Trahscript page 784.
US.94 2789 PS Henlein to Ribbentrop 17 March 1938 Transcript page 786
US.95 2788 PS Conference with Henlein 29 Mar.1938 Transcript pp. 786/7
US.96 3059 PS Memorandum on stirring up of Sudeten Germans 29th March 1938 Transcript p.789

At end of Section B.2 (page 4) insert:

US.86 2791 PS Ribbentrop/Attolico about Czecho-Slovakia. Transcript p.754
US.87 2792 PS Ribbentrop/Attolico 27 Aug.1938 Transcript p.754

At end of Section B.3 (page 4) insert:

Cf. US.81 2786 PS Ribbentrop/Keitel about Hungary 4 March 1938 - Transcript p. 740

At end of Section B.8 (page 6) insert:

Cf.US.110 2790 PS Meeting of Hitler and Ribbentrop with pro-Nazi Slovak Tuca 12 February 1939 Transcript p. 898

At end of Section B.9 (page 6) insert:

Cf. US.126 3061 PS Czechoslovakian Government Report. Transcript page 931

POLAND GREAT BRITAIN & FRANCE.

Page 10, para.6 "Interrogation of Ribbentrop" Add D.490.

NORWAY & DENMARK:

Top of Page 11, after 004 PS Add: The final position is shown by letter of Keitel dated 3 April 1940 - D.629.

JAPAN & AGGRESSION AGAINST U.S.A.

Page 15 - at end of Section 4, after US.33 Add: US.153 1882 PS Notes on conversation Ribbentrop/Matsuoka 5 April 1941

Page 15 - end of Section 5, add: D.656 - Extract from "Intercepted Diplomatic Messages sent by Japanese Government between 1 July and 8 Dec. 1941 - 29 November 1941
D.657 ditto 8 December 1941

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4th January 1946.

AMENDMENTS TO TRIAL BRIEF ON DEFENDANT VON RIBBENTROP.

AUSTRIA.

Page 4: RGB.1938 I.No.21 Page 237 Add in document No. "2307 PS"
Add in date Column: "13 March 1938"

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

Page 4 - para.2:

US.35 2800 PS. Amend date to 18th July 1938

Page 5: US.90 C.2 Amend date: 1st October 1938

LITHUANIA.

Page 7 - end para.2:

2952 PS - Report on Woldemaras Supporters
Amend date to 19th July 1939.

POLAND

Page 8:

GB.27 TC.73 44 Amend date to 25th October 1938.

Page 8 - end of para.2:

GB.37 TC.73 - 57 Amend date to 30 Jan. 1939.

Page 9 - end para.4:

GB.41 C.120 Date: Add - 3 and 11th April 1939.

JAPAN AND AGGRESSION AGAINST U.S.A.

Page 16 - end para.7:

2907 PS should be 2954 PS - Conversation Ribbentrop/
Oshima 6th March 1943

F.O.File J.62 is US. 159 - 2929 PS.

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JOACHIM VON RIBBENTROP

STATEMENT of EVIDENCE.

I.

THE DEFENDANT RIBBENTROP USED HIS POSITIONS AND INTIMATE CONNECTIONS WITH THE FUHRER TO PROMOTE THE ACCESSION TO POWER OF THE NAZI CONSPIRATORS.

A. Between 1932 and 1945 the Defendant Ribbentrop held the following positions:-

1. Member of NSDAP (Nazi Party) 1932 - 1945
2. Reichstag member 1933 - 1945
3. Foreign Policy Advisor to the Fuhrer 1933 - 1945
4. Representative of NSDAP (Nazi Party) on Foreign Policy 1933-45
5. Special Delegate for Disarmament Questions 1934 - 37.
6. Ambassador at Large 1935 - 38.
7. Ambassador in London 1936 - 38.
8. Organiser and Chief of the Ribbentrop Bureau (Dienststelle Ribbentrop) in the Reichsministry for Foreign Affairs.
9. Reichminister for Foreign Affairs 1938-45.
10. Member of the Secret Cabinet Council 1938 - 45.
11. Member of the Fuhrer's Political Staff at General H.Q. 1942-45
12. General of the SS. (Obergruppenfuhrer) 1938-45.

US.5
2829 PS

US.5 2829 PS - Affidavit von Ribbentrop Nov. 1945.

B. The Defendant Ribbentrop first associated himself with the Nazi Party in 1930. As is stated in the Archives "He succeeded in extending these (his business connections) to political circles, having joined in 1930 the service of NSDAP".

"At the time of the final struggle for power in the Reich, Ribbentrop played an important, if not strikingly obvious, part in the bringing about of the decisive meetings between the representatives of the President of the Reich and the heads of NSDAP., who had prepared the entry of Nazis into power on 30 January 1933. Those meetings, as well a those between

Hitler/

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Hitler and von Papen, took place in Ribbentrop's house in Berlin Dahlen".

Political and Offical Positions:

a) After the Nazis came to power von Ribbentrop in private capacity assumed the position of collaborator to the Fuhrer on matters of Foreign Policy (Aussenpolitischer Mitarbeiter des Fuhrers). Later he became representative for matters of foreign policy (Beauftragter der NSDAP fur Aussenpolitische Fragen) in the staff of the Deputy.

b) He became a member of the Nazi Reichstag in November 1933 and received the honorary rank of Oberfuhrer in the SS., was subsequently promoted to SS Gruppenfuhrer in 1938, and to Obergruppenfuhrer as of 1943.

c) Beginning in 1934 von Ribbentrop represented Germany abroad on several missions. On 24 April 1934, after disarmement negotiations had broken down, von Ribbentrop was appointed Delegate of the Reich Government in matters of Disarmament (Beauftragter der Reichsreierung fur Abrustungsfragen). In this capacity he visited London, Rome and France.

d) In his capacity of representative for Foreign Policy matters he collected information and treated party questions of foreign policy which the Fuhrer ordered, and in May or June 1935, was appointed German Minister Plenipotentiary at Large (Ausserordentlicher Bevollmachtigter Botschafter). In this capacity he negotiated the German English Naval Agreement.

e) In March 1936 the Nazi Government of Germany reoccupied the Rhineland zone, which had been demilitarised in accordance with the terms of the Versailles and Locarno Treaties. In the negotiations in this matter von Ribbentrop later addressed the League of Nations Council in defence of this action on the part of Germany.

f) On 11 August 1936 von Ribbentrop was appointed German Ambassador in London. While holding this position he took a prominent part in the protracted negotiations concerning the non-intervention policy with relation to the Spanish Civil War.

g) In the

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g) In the capacity of German Minister Plenipotentiary at Large (Aussenordentlicher Bevollmachtigter Botschafter), von Ribbentrop signed by Order of the Fuhrer the original Anticomintern Pact with Japan in Berlin on 25 November 1936, and in 1937 signed the agreement by which Italy joined the Anti-comintern group.

h) On 4 February 1938 von Ribbentrop was appointed Foreign Minister replacing von Neurath, and was simultaneously made a member of the Secret Cabinet Council (Geheimer Kabinsttsrat) established by decree of Hitler of the same date, which, according to official announcement, was set up to advise the Fuhrer on matters of foreign policy.

His actions as Foreign Minister are dealt with in detail hereafter.

D.472 See Archiv fur publizistische Arbeit (22.4.43) page 6005.

II.

THE DEFENDANT RIBBENTROP PARTICIPATED IN POLITICAL PLANNING AND PREPARATION WITH THE NAZI CONSPIRATORS FOR WARS OF AGGRESSION AND WARS IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES, AGREEMENT AND ASSURANCES, AND ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FUHRER PRINCIPLE FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE FOREIGN POLICY PLANS OF THE NAZI CONSPIRATORS.

A. AUSTRIA:

1. The defendant Ribbentrop was present at the meeting at Berchtesgaden on 12 February 1938 at which Hitler and von Papen met the Austrian Chancellor von Schuschnigg and his foreign minister Schmidt.

2461 PS
1780 PS

2461 PS
US.72 1780 PS (entries for 11/12 February 1938)
Transcript page 554.

2. Thereafter this defendant visited Mussolini to keep him posted and secure Italian acquiescence in German action.

Schwartz "This Man Ribbentrop" p.231

3525.

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3. After the entry of the German troops into Austria a telephone conversation took place between the Defendant Goering and the defendant Ribbentrop on 13 March 1938. The reason for and effects of this conversation were dealt with by Mr.Alderman

Transcript page 582

US 76
2949 PS

US.76 2949 PS

4. On the 13 March 1938 this defendant signed the Law making Austria a province of the German Reich

RGB.1938 I No.21 Page 237

B. CZECHOSLOVAKIA:

1. The defendant Ribbentrop was present on 28 May 1938 at a conference with Hitler at which the latter gave the necessary instructions to prepare the attack on Czechoslovakia.

See Transcript page 742

2360 PS

2360 PS - Voelkischer Boebachter 13.1.39

2. On 23 August 1938 this defendant had a conversation with the Italian Ambassador Attolico at which the attack on Czechoslovakia was discussed.

US.85
2800 PS

US.85 2800 PS

3. On 23rd and 25th August 1938 Ribbentrop was present at conversations with Imredi and Kanta, Hungarian politicians, held in order to produce a favourable reaction in Hungary to the Nazi designs on Czechoslovakia.

US.88
2796 PS

US.89
2797 PS

US.88 2796 PS
US.89 2797 PS

4. Between the 16th and 24th September the German Foreign Office of which the defendant was the head, was stirring up trouble in Prague.

US.97 2858 PS
US.98 2855 PS
US.99 2854 PS
US.100 2853 PS
US.101 2856 PS

US.97 2858 PS
US.98 2855 PS
US.99 2854 PS
US.100 2853 PS
US.101 2856 PS.

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5. On 29 September 1938 the Munich Agreement was signed

GB.23
TC.23

GB.23 TC.23

6. Two days later, the Supreme Command of the German Armed Forces sent to the Foreign Office an analytical study of the Hague Convention on the conduct of the war, which may be expected to be violated by the German Wehrmacht. The Foreign Office was requested to express an opinion so that a final version of this study could be made. Among the examples given, violative of international law, for which the justification or explanation would be demanded by other powers, are:-

i) "In an air raid on Prague, the British Embassy is destroyed"

ii) "Hradschin is destroyed in an air raid on Prague".

iii) "On account of a report that the Czechs have used gas, firing of gas projectiles is ordered."

iv) "Captured Czech soldiers or Czech civilians are detailed to do road work or to load munitions."

v) "For military reasons it is necessary to requisition billets, food-stuffs, and fodder from the Czech population, as a result that the latter suffer from want."

vi) "In the course of their duty, German aircraft fly over Polish territory, where they are involved in air battle with Czech aircraft."

US.90
C.2.

US.90 C.2. - Analytical study of breaches of International Law.

7. As events moved to a climax in the first half of March 1939, Ribbentrop was particularly active. On the 13 March Ribbentrop sent a cautionary telegram to the German Minister in Prague telling him and other members of the Embassy "to make a point of not being available if the Czech Government wants to get in touch with you in the next few days."

US.116
2815 PS

US.116 2815 PS Telegram Ribbentrop to Prague, 13 March 1939.

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8. On the afternoon of 13 March Tiso and a delegation composed of pre-Nazi Slovaks arrived in Berlin in response to a summons from Hitler. At a conference with Hitler, at which Ribbentrop was present, Tiso was directed to declare an independent Slovak state a move which would assist in the disintegration of Czechoslovakia

US.117
2802 PS

US.117 2802 PS Notes on conference Hitler/Tiso 13 March 1939

9. On the next day, 14th March 1939, the President of the Czechoslovak Republic was called to Berlin, Ribbentrop participating in the meeting, and told that German forces had been ordered to march into his country at 6.00 a.m. the next day, and under this threat he was forced to sign a document entrusting Czechoslovakia to the Nazi conspirators.

Transcript p. 911
US.118 2798 PS German F.O.Minutes of Hitler/Hacha meeting 15 March 1939.

10. The following week, von Ribbentrop signed a treaty with Slovakia, Article 2 of which provided:-

> "For the purpose of making effective the protection undertaken by the German Reich, the German Armed Forces shall have the right, at all times, to construct military installations and to keep them garrisoned in the strength they deem necessary, in an area delimited on its western side by the frontiers of the State of Slovakia, and on its eastern side by a line formed by the eastern rims of the lower Carpathians, the White Carpathians and the Javornik Mountains....."

Transcript p. 922
1439 PS

1439 PS Treaty of Protection between German Reich and State of Slovakia 23 March 1939.

C. <u>LITHUNIA</u>:

1. On 3rd April 1939, as a result of negotiations carried out by this Defendant with Lithuania, Memel was incorporated in the Reich.

GB.4
TC.53A

GB.4 TC.53A

Thereafter/

H1156 - 0010

2. Thereafter, von Ribbentrop approved the disbursement of Foreign Office funds to the "Woldemaras" supporters in Lithuania, an insurgent element which sought power on Lett Policy. Here Ribbentrop was interfering in the political internal situation in Lithuania by cooperating closely with the defendant Rosenberg.

2953 PS — 2953 PS Letter Heydrich to Ribbentrop 29 June 1939

2952 PS — 2952 PS Report on Woldemaras Supporters 19 July 1939.

D. POLAND, GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE.

1. As has been developed by Col. Griffith Jones during the time that Germany was engaged in planning the destruction of Czechoslovakia it was her policy, conducted by this defendant publicly to soothe and display friendly feelings towards Poland.

Transcript pp.985/986

GB,30 2357 PS Transcript 978 et seq Hitlers Reichs speech 2

TC.73 37 Extracts from Hitler's Reichstag Speech

GB.31 TC 76 Transcript 980 - German F.O.Secret memo "It will be the general impression that the Poles will be next". 26 Aug.193

TC.73 46 Conversation Lipski/Ribbentrop 10 Sept.19

TC.73 42 Hitler at Sportz Palast "No more territorial problems in Europe" 26 Sept.19

H1156 - 0011

2. The first approaches on the question of Danzig, before the whole of Czechoslovakia had been acquired, were also publicly on a friendly basis. This defendant emphasized that Germany was not seeking any violent solution, and that the basis of their policy towards Poland was still a desire for the further building up of friendly relations.

Transcript p.985 et seq.

GB.27 TC.73 44 Ribbentrop & Lipski general and peaceful settlement of Danzig issue (986) 24 Oct.193

GB.28 TC.73 - 45 Polish reply suggesting bi-lateral agreement, but unacceptable that Danzig should return to Reich (986) 31 Oct. 19

GB.33 C.137 Preparations to be made to occupy Danzig by surprise (988) 21.10. 193

GB.34 TC.73 - 48 Beck and Hitler (Ribbentrop present) "some new form - korperschaft.Minister could be quite at ease". (988/9) 5 Jan. 19

GB.35 TC.73 - 49 Ribbentrop and Beck "No violent solution of Danzig... a further building up of friendly relations" (990) 6 Jan. 19

GB.36 2530 PS Ribbentrop's speech in Warsaw "Continued progress and consolidation of friendly relations" 25 Jan. 19

GB.37 TC.73 - 57 Hitler's Reichstag speech (990) 28 Jan. 19

3. "his defendant must have known

i) that Danzig was merely an excuse

ii) that Hitler had, in the Spring of 1939, formed the decision to make war on Poland

US.27 L.79 Hitler's meeting at Reichschancel 23. May 19

US.30 1014 PS Hitler's Obersalzberg speech 22 August 1

US.27
L.79

US.30
1014 PS.

4. The next stage can be put in the words of Count Ciano, in the introduction to his diary:-

"In the summer /

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"In the summer of '39 Germany advanced her claim against Poland, naturally without our knowledge; indeed, Ribbentrop had several times denied to our Ambassador that Germany had any intention of carrying the controversy to extreme. Despite these denials I remained in doubt; I wanted to make sure for myself, and on August 11th, I went to Salzberg. It was in his residence at Fuschl that Ribbentrop informed me, while we were waiting to sit down at the table, of the decision to start the fireworks, just as he might have told me about the most unimportant and commonplace administrative matter. "Well, Ribbentrop, I asked him, while we were walking in the garden, "What do you want? The corridor, or Danzig?"
"Not any more..... and he stared at me through those cold Musee Greven eyes....."We want war".

US.166
2987 PS

US.166 2987 PS Ciano's diary

GB.41
C.120

"Fall Weiss" for operation against Poland, dated 11 April 1939

5. This is made clear in the extract from the diary for 11 August 1939:-

"I have collected in the conference records of verbal transcripts of my conversations with Ribbentrop and Hitler. I shall only note some impressions of a general nature. Ribbentrop is evasive every time I ask him for particulars of the forthcoming German action. He has a guilty conscience. He has lied too many times about German intentions towards Poland not to feel embarrassment now over what he must tell me and what he is preparing to do.

"The will to fight is unalterable. He rejects any solution which might satisfy Germany and prevent the struggle. I am certain that even if the Germans were given everything they demanded, they would attack just the same because they are possessed by the demon of destruction.

"Our conversation sometimes takes a dramatic turn. I do not hesitate to speak my mind in the most brutal manner. But this doesn't shake him in the least. I realise how little weight this view carries in German opinion.

"The atmosphere is icy. And the cold feeling between us is reflected in our followers. During dinner we do not exchange a word. We distrust each other. But I at least have a clear conscience. He has not".

6. The sharp pressure on the claim for Danzig is shown immediately Czechoslovakia was formally dealt with on 15 March 1939

Transcript p. 992 et seq

GB.38
TC.73 - 61

GB.38 Tc.73 - 61 et seq. 21 March 1939

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6. About 18 August 1939, the German Ambassador in London returned to Berlin and was received neither by Hitler nor by Ribbentrop

Interrogation of Ribbentrop - 20 September 1945
1430 - 1615.

7. In the last days before 1st September 1939 the Defendant Ribbentrop did whatever he could to avoid peace with Poland, well knowing that war with Poland would involve Britain and Fran The details have been given by Col.Griffith Jones and the facts are summarised by the Polish Ambassador, M.Lipski in:

TC.73
147

TC.73 - 147
Transcript pp 1000 - 1059
and Exhibits there cited. I shall

not go through them again

E. NORWAY AND DENMARK:

1. On 31 May 1939 the defendant Ribbentrop, on behalf of Germany, entered into a non-aggression pact with Denmark, providing that:-

"The German Reich and the Kingdom of Denmark will under no circumstances go to war or employ force of any other kind against one another".

GB.77
TC.24

GB.77 TC.24 Danish German non-aggression Pact 31 May 1

But on 7th April 1940, German Armed Forces invaded the Kingdom of Denmark.

2. In the political preparations for the invasion of Norway Ribbentrop was kept informed at all times by the defendant Rosenb the latter who kept in close contact with Quisling. At a meeting between Rosenberg and Ribbentrop it was decided to appropriate 200,000 gold marks for Quisling's work in Norway, and it was the defendant Ribbentrop who, after a consultation with Rosenberg, furnished the coal barges to trahsport Quilsing's German-trained supporters,

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supporters from Germany to Oslo where they were to accomplish a coup d'etat.

957 PS Rosenberg's letter to Ribbentrop 24 Feb. 1940
004 PS Rosenberg's report to the Fuhrer with enclosure No.3. 17 June 1940

F. THE NETHERLANDS:

1. The facts as to the aggression against these countries, during the period when this defendant was foreign minister, were stated in detail by Mr. G.D.Roberts.

Transcript pp. 1100 - 1125

2. The only further action of this defendant to which attenti may be called is the making of a statement on 10 May 1940 to representatives of the foreign press with regard to the reasons for the German invasion which have proved to be false by the documents put in in evidence by Mr.Roberts.

G. GREECE AND YUGOSLAVIA:

At the meeting at Salzberg in August 1939, at which von Ribbentrop participated, the Axis had decided to liquidate certain neutrals.

1871 PS 1871 PS Report on Hitler /Ciano Meeting 12 Aug.

2. As early as September 1940 von Ribbentrop reviewed the war situation with Mussolini. The former emphasized the heavy revenge bombing raids on England and the fact that London would soon be in ruins. It was agreed between the parties that only Italian interests were involved in Greece and Yugoslavia, and that Italy could count on German support. Then he went on to further explain to Mussolini the Spanish plan for the attack on Gibraltar and Germany's participation therein, and that he, von Ribbentrop

was expecting/

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was expecting to sign the Protocol with Spain, bringing the latter country into the war on his return to Berlin.

1842 PS

1842 PS. Meeting between Mussolini and Ribbentrop 19 September 1940.

3. In January 1941, at the meeting between Hitler and Mussolini in which von Ribbentrop participated, the Greek operation was discussed. Hitler had stated that the German troops in Rumania were for use in the planned campaign against Greece.

GB.119
C.134.

GB.119 C.134. Meeting between Hitler and Mussolini 19/20 January 1941.

4. Count Ciano, in his diary, recording his impression of this meeting states:-

"The Duce was pleased with the conversation on the whole. I am less pleased. Above all, because Ribbentrop who had always been so boastful in the past told me when I asked him outright, how long the war would last, that he saw no possibility of its ending before 1942".

GB.166
2987 PS

Ciano Diary, January 20/21 1941
GB.166 2987 PS.

5. On 13th February 1941, Ribbentrop told Ambassador Oshima of Japan:-

"... the Fuhrer had created a number of new formations during the winter. In the Spring 240 divisions, including 186 first class attack divisions are available. The Fuhrer is determined not to permit any more English troops on Greek territories. Rumania, Hungary and Slovakia have already joined the three-power pact: tomorrow we could sign with Bulgaria. The time of joining is however determined by military necessity. Bulgaria has recently signed a treaty with Turkey, upon our instigation. This Turkish-Bulgarian declaration signifies a clear separation of Turkey from the war-like developments in the Balkans and from England. Neither Turkey nor Russia would undertake anything in case of German intervention in Greece. Should the tasks however become active against expectation, sufficient troops are prepared to destroy them utterly".

GB.129
1834 PS

GB.129 1834 PS Ribbentrop/Oshima 13 February 19

GB.120 1746 PS Extracts from agreement between Germany, Bulgaria & Rumania for attacking Greece and eventually Turkey 8 February 19

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6. Ribbentrop put forth his efforts during these early days of 1941 to have Yugoslavia join the Axis. On the 25th March the defendant von Ribbentrop in a note to Premier Cvetkovitch of Yugoslavia stated:-

> "..... The Axis power governments, during this war will not direct a demand to Yugoslavia to permit the march or transportation of troops through the Yugoslav state or territory".

GB.123
2450 PS.

GB.123 2450 PS Note of assurance from Ribbentrop to Cvetkovitch

7. Two days later at the meeting of 27th March 1941, Ribbentrop participating, Hitler outlined the military campaign against Yugoslavia and promised the destruction of Yugoslavia and the demolition of the city of Belgrade by the German Air Force.

GB.120
1746 PS.

GB.120 1746 PS Minutes of 27 March 1941.

8. After the invasion of Yugoslavia von Ribbentrop was one of the persons directed by Hitler with the drawing of the boundaries for the division and partition of Yugoslavia.

1195 PS Preliminary directive for the partition of Yugoslavia 12 April 1941.

H. RUSSIA:

1. On 23 August 1939 this defendant had signed the German/ Soviet non-aggression Pact

TC.25

GB.129
1834 PS

TC. 25 23 August 1939
GB.129 1834 PS Ribbentrop/Oshima - 13 Feb.1941

2. On 20 April 1941 Rosenberg and Ribbentrop met to consider the problems which were expected to arise in eastern occupied territories. Ribbentrop appointed his Privy Counsellor, Grosskopf, to be his liaison man with Ribbentrop and asdigned Consul General Bräutigam /

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Bräutigam, who had many years experience in USSR as a collaborator with Rosenberg.

US.146
1039 PS.

US. 146 1039 PS Report from Rosenberg's "Russia File". Problems in the eastern territories 28 June 1941

3. The following month, the German Foreign Office prepared a declaration setting forth operational zones in the Arctic Ocean, the Baltic and Black Seas, to be used by the German Navy and Air Force in the coming invasion of the Soviet Union.

C.77

C.77 Foreign Office Treaties for use in Barbarossa 18 May 1941

4. On 22nd June 1941 Ribbentrop announced to the world that the German armies were invading the USSR (as was seen in the film shown on 11 December 1945). How untrue were the reasons given is shown by the report of his own ambassador in Moscow who said that everything was being done to avoid a conflict.

US.167
3054 PS

See Attorney General's speech
Transcript page 888

I. JAPAN AND AGGRESSION AGAINST U.S.A.

1. On 25th November 1936, as a result of negotiations by this defendant, Germany and Japan had signed the Anti-Comintern Pact

US. 2508 PS
See Transcript p. 1218

2. On 27th September 1940 the defendant Ribbentrop as Foreign Minister of the German Reich signed the Tripartite Pact with Japan and Italy thereby bringing about a full-scale military and economic alliance for the creation of a new order in Europe and East Asia.

US.149
2643 PS

USA. 149 2643 PS Tripartite Pact 27 Sept. 1940

3. Within a few /

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3. Within a few months Ribbentrop was urging the Japanese to attack England's possessions in the Far East:

> "..... Every eventuality has been foreseen; the war has been won to-day militarily, economically and politically. We have the desire to end the war quickly and to force England to sue for peace, soon. The Fuhrer is vigorous and healthy, fully convinced of victory and determined to bring the war to a quick and victorious end. To this end the co-operation with Japan is of importance. However, Japan, in its own interest, should come in as soon as possible. This would destroy England's key position in the Far East; Japan on the other hand, would thus secure its position in the Far East, a position which it can acquire only through war...."

GB.119
1834 PS

GB.119 1834 PS Ribbentrop's notes on conferences, himself and Ambassador Oshima. 13 Feb. 1

4. In April 1941, at a meeting between Hitler and Matsuoka, at which Ribbentrop was present, Hitler promised that Germany would declare war on the United States in the event of war occurring between Japan and the United States as a result of Japanese aggression in the Pacific.

US.33
1881 PS.

US.33 1881 PS. Conference Hitler/Matsuoka 4 April 1941

5. Within a month after the German armies had invaded the Soviet Union Ribbentrop was urging his Ambassador in Tokyo to do his utmost to have the Japenese government attack the Soviet in Siberia.

US.155
2896 PS

US.155 2896 PS Telegram Ribbentrop/Ott 10 July 1941

US.156
2897 PS

US.156 2897 PS Telegram from Ott to Ribbentro 14 July 1941

6. On 11 December 1941 Ribbentrop in the name of the German government announced a state of war between Germany and the United States.

7. In Ribbentrop's conversations with Oshima in July 1942 and in March and April 1943 he continued to urge Japanese participation

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and aggression against the USSR.

US.157 2911 PS Conversation Ribbentrop/Oshima 9 July 1942

US.157
2911 PS

2907 PS Conversation Ribbentrop/Oshima 6 March 1943

2907 PS

F.O.File No.J.62 Conversation Ribbentrop/Oshima 18 April 1943

F.O.File J.62

III.

THE DEFENDANT RIBBENTROP AUTHORISED, DIRECTED AND PARTICIPATED IN WAR CRIMES AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY.

1. It is not the purpose of this part of the case to deal with specific instances of War Crimes or Crimes against Humanity, but it is relevant to show howthis defendant participated in the planning of such crimes and I deal first with:-

a) the killing of Allied Aviators;

b) destruction of Peoples in Europe;

c) Persecution of the Jews.

a) Killing of Allied Aviators:

With the increasing air raids on German cities in 1944 by the Allied Air Forces, the German government proposed to undertake a plan to deter Anglo-American fliers from further raids on the Reich cities. In the report of a meeting between Goering, Ribbentrop and Himmler, at which a definite policy was to be established for the disposition of Allied airmen who had fallen into German hands, it was stated:-

"...In contrast to the original suggestion of the Reich Foreign Minister, who wanted to include every kind of terror air attack against our civilian population, that is,even bombing attacks on cities, an agreement was reached to the effect that only attacks by aircraft armament aiming direct at the civilian population and their property ought to be considered as constituting a criminal act in this sense. Lynch law would have to be considered as the rule.

H1156 - 0020

"There was no mention of sentence by court-martial and surrender to the police....."

735 PS

735 PS. Report of conference on killing of Allied airmen 6 June 19

On June 24, the Foreign Office submitted a letter to the Chief of the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces, enclosing a studied opinion of the questions involved in the treatment of "enemy terror aviators". It stated:

"..... In spite of the obvious objectives founded on International law and foreign politics, the Foreign Office is basically in agreement with the proposed measures....".

The enclosure goes on to state that in the cases of lynching the German authorities are not directly responsible because death has occurred before German officials become concerned with the case. However, in the case of "special treatment by the SD." since the Foreign Office cannot recommend formal repudiation of the Prisoner of War Treaty, an emergency solution is outlined. It provides that Allied airmen when seized be informed they are criminals and not prisoners of war. In this way they can be delivered to the authorities in charge of criminal matters and not to prisoner of war camps. If, in a summary proceeding, the evidence shows that a particular flyer does not come within the special procedure, he can be turned over to the prisoner of war camp.

728 PS.

728 PS Letter of Foreign Office - 25 June 1944.

Although the Foreign Office had sent this letter, it had not been approved by von Ribbentrop, but five days later Warlimont states that Minister Ritter, of the Foreign Office, had informed hi by telephone that von Ribbentrop had approved the draft.

740 PS

740 PS Letter dated 30 June 1944.

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b) Destruction of Europe's Peoples:

1. Poland:

In the previous testimony given by General Lahousen at this trial when speaking of what had taken place at the 12th Sept. 1939 meeting, the witness stated:-

> "Later another meeting took place in the train and in this meeting, the then Chief of the OKW, Keitel summarised and amplified these political directions, given by Ribbentrop in regard to the treatment of the Polish problem, as to the political point of view, and he mentioned several possibilities - we could do this or this could happen; this case might be possible. In connection with that he said 'You, you Canaris, have to start an uprising with the organisation of the Ukraine, which must have as its aim Poles and Jews'.
>
> "Then thirdly, not at a special meeting, but just as a matter of conversation between Ribbentrop and Canaris in connection with this subject, this remark was made casually, with a more amplified statement of the intention, how this uprising, or whatever was to happen, would mean, and I remember very clearly that he said: "The farms must go up in flames".
>
> Transcript 30 November 1945
> Pages 618 and 619;
> 1st December 1945 pages 713 - 716.

2. Bohemia and Moravia:

On the 16th March 1939 there was promulgated the decree of the Fuhrer and Reich Chancellor, signed by Ribbentrop, concerning the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. It stated in part:-

Article 5 - (2). "It shall be the duty of the Reich Protector as representative of the Fuhrer and Reich Chancellor and as the agent of the Government of the Reich, to assure compliance with the political instructions issued by the Fuhrer and Reich Chancellor...."

"(4). "The Reich Protector may demand information concerning all acts of the Government of the Protectorate and may offer a council to the Government. He may protest against measures which may be harmful to the Reich, and in cases of emergency may take all steps necessary to the common welfare.

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"(5). The publication of statutes, orders and other general rules and regulations, and the enforcement of administrative measures and execution of judicial decisions which have become final shall be suspended upon notice of protest given by the Reich Protector."

GB.8
TC.51

GB.8 TC.51 Decree establishing Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia.

As a result of this law the two Reich Protectors of Bohemia and Moravia, and their various deputies, were appointed, who proceeded to commit the crimes which will be detailed by my Russian colleages.

3. The Netherlands:

On 18 May 1940 a decree of the Fuhrer was signed by Ribbentrop concerning the exercise of governmental authority in the Netherlands.

"Section 1 The occupied Netherlands territories shall be administered by the 'Reich Commissioner for the occupied Netherlands territories'.....The Reich Commissioner is guardian of the interests of the Reich and vested with supreme civil authority."

Section 6. Doctor Arthur Seyss-Inquart is hereby appointed Reich Commissioner for the occupied Netherlands territories".

RGB.1940 Teil I p. 778

On the basis of this decree, the Reich Commissioner (Seyss-Inquart) promulgated such orders as that of 4th July 1940 dealing with the confiscation of property of those who had, or might have furthered activities hostile to the German Reich, and tentative arrangements were made for the resettlement of the Dutch pulation which will also be dealt with fully hereafter in this case, by my French colleagues.

2921 PS

2921 PS General Order of Seyss-Inquart 4 July 1940
Veroidnungsblatt 1940 No.9 p. 128
13 May 1942

1520 PS

1520 PS Memorandum - conference Hitler/Rosenberg Lammers/Bormann 8 May 1942

It is submitted/

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It is submitted that even though no evidence has been offered that directly connects the defendant Ribbentrop with the commission of war crimes, and crimes against humanity, which were committed in Bohemia, Moravia and the Netherlands, he is nevertheless responsible for the commission of such crimes. It is he, the defendant Ribbentrop, who authorised the exercise of German authority in these territories and it is he, the defendant who, as a member of the Secret Cabinet Counsel and being on intimate terms with other higher Nazi officials, knew of events transpiring in the German Reich and occupied countries.

C. Persecution of the Jews:

In December 1938 Ribbentrop in a conversation with Foreign Minister Bonnet of France, told the latter that the Jews in Germany were without exception pickpockets, murderers and thieves and that the German government had decided to assimilate them with the criminal element of the population. Their property was acquired illegally and would be taken from them and they would be placed under police observation, like any other criminal. The Nazi program against the Jews began on a nation wide scale in November 1938.

L.205

L. 205 - Telegram Kennedy to Department of State.

The pre-war attitude of the defendant towards the Jewish question is well shown in a German Foreign Office memorandum dated 31 January 1939

3358 PS

3358, which I now hand in.

I wish to read only the introduction on page 3; last two paragraphs on page 4; last paragraph of all - pages 7 and 8.

In June 1944/

H1156-0024

In June 1944, the defendant ~~Ribbentrop~~ Rosenberg made arrangements for an international anti-Jewish Congress to be held in Kracow on 11th July 1944. The honorary members were to be von Ribbentrop Himmler, Goebbels, and Frank. The Foreign Office was to take over the mission of inviting prominent foreigners from Italy, France, Hungary, Holland, Arabia, Iraq, Norway, etc. in order to give an international aspect to the Congress. However, the military events of June 1944 prompted Hitler to call off the Congress, since it had lost its significance by virtue of the Allied landing on the Normandy beaches.

1752 PS

1752 PS Preparation for International Anti-Jewish Congress.

The program against the Jews resulted in placing them in concentration camps with anyone else who opposed the Nazi way of life. It cannot be doubted that Ribbentrop knew what was taking place in the concentration camps. In view of the vast number of Camps all over Europe, no-one in the position of a Minister could be ignorant. It must be rembered that the defendant von Ribbentrop was a member of the inner circle of advisers of Hitler, as was Himmler himself.

IV.

ARGUMENT AND CONCLUSION.

It is submitted that the foregoing evidence establishes the participation of the defendant Ribbentrop as Foreign Minister in the diplomatic planning of the aggressive war waged by the Nazis. He associated himself with the Nazi party in 1930 and at the time they came into power in 1933, he availed their leaders of his Berlin residence as a meeting place. In 1938 he became Foreign Minister and held that position until the military defeat of Germany.

He, as Foreign/

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He, as Foreign Minister, took part in the Austrian Anschluss, the Munich Conference, the breakup of the Czecho-Slovak Republic, the various meetings between Hitler and Mussolini, and, at the same time, was assuring Poland of Germany's friendly attitude towards that country, when he knew months before the war started, that war with Poland would take place. He knew when the German Armies would invade Poland and avoided taking any steps of a diplomatic nature to assure continued peace. During those eighteen months between March 1938 and September 1939, he negotiated treaties of non-aggression with Denmark and the Soviet Union. When Hitler made the decision to invade those countries Ribbentrop participated in the planning for the invasion and it was he, Ribbentrop, who urged Japan to wage an aggressive war in the Pacific against the British Empire and the United States. In Hitler's own words :-

> "In the historic year of 1938 the Foreign Minister, von Ribbentrop, was of great help to me, in view of his accurate and audacious judgment, and the exceptionally clever treatment of all problems of foreign policy."
>
> See Archiv für publizistische Arbeit - quoted above
>
> D. 472

D.472 " "

During the course of this aggressive war, Ribbentrop was in close liaison with the other Nazi conspirators. He advised them and made available to them, his foreign embassies and legations abroad, and at times even participated in the planning of human killings.

It is submitted that the allegations against this defendant in Appendix "A" of the Indictment are fully proved.